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Information Alert

From the National Agricultural Library

United States Department of Agriculture

NAL

Press Release—FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Contact: Brian Norris, (301) 504-6778
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September 1994

Information Alert

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United States Department of Agriculture

NAL

PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Global Change Database Available at NAL

Beltsville, MD – A sample database of global change information is now available at the National Agricultural Library (NAL) and over the Internet.

A pilot project of the Global Change Data and Information System (GCDIS), the database is an effort by the United States Global Change Research Program (USGCRP) to make global change data and information more accessible to researchers and others. Also, project managers are seeking to show that traditional database searching methods can be enhanced by using "natural language with a semantic network of word meanings and relationships" that is commercially available. NAL is coordinating the project.

According to Pamela André, NAL Acting Director, the database uses "off-the-shelf" client/server software to improve access to global change information from the federal government, academia and the international community.

"The pilot system lets users query data and information using common language techniques," André said. "These simple techniques allow users quick and easy access to worldwide information on all aspects of global climate change."

The sample database contains over 10,000 documents related to global change including international treaties, protocols and agreements; medical studies; and public opinion surveys related to environmental issues.

With NAL, other organizations participating in the pilot project are Argonne Laboratories, Cambridge Scientific Abstracts, the Consortium for International Earth Science Information Network, the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration, the National Technical Information Service, the Defense Technical Information Center, Oak Ridge Laboratories of the Department of Energy, the U.S. Geological Survey, EPA, NASA, the Library of Congress,

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Roper Public Opinion Poll, the University of Maryland and the Department of Veterans Affairs.

Building on this database project, a related project called "Assisted Search for Knowledge (ASK)" will be undertaken in which a system will be developed that will allow students, researchers, policy makers and the general public to navigate easily through the vast amount of global change data and information to get exactly what they need.

"ASK will let users browse through data and documents, search files, selectively review and order data and documents, use intelligent hypertext to find related information, construct complex queries or state questions in simple English," André said. "Basically, it will make searching data and information as simple as possible."

To search the sample database over the Internet:

—Telnet: esdim2.esdim.noaa.gov;

—Logon: conquest;

—Password: conquest11 (use lower-case letters and note that the password numbers are one-one).

For additional information contact Roberta Rand at:

Telephone: (301) 504-6684
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FAX: (301) 504-7473
Internet: rrand@nalusda.gov

Or write to:

Roberta Rand
Information Systems Division, Room 013
National Agricultural Library, USDA
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351

NAL is one of three national libraries of the United States, with the Library of Congress and the National Library of Medicine. It is the largest agricultural library in the world.

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PRESS RELEASE – FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Subject contact:
Telephone: (301) 504-6212
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Farm Animal Welfare Pubs Available from NAL

Beltsville, MD – Bibliographies of materials on caring for farm animals are available from the Animal Welfare Information Center (AWIC) of the National Agricultural Library (NAL). The materials were identified in NAL's AGRICOLA bibliographic database. Most materials listed are available in the NAL collection.

The bibliographies are:

"Housing, Husbandry, and Welfare of Swine" (QB 94-14)

"Housing, Husbandry, and Welfare of Poultry" (QB 94-15)

"Housing, Husbandry, and Welfare of Rabbits" (QB 94-16)

"Anesthesia and Analgesia for Farm Animals" (QB 94-21)

According to Jean Larson, AWIC coordinator, the bibliographies list hundreds of articles, research reports, books and other materials on these specific topics.

"The items listed would be helpful to farmers and anyone doing research with these animals," Larson said.

For copies of any or all of the publications, send a request, specifying the publication(s) desired, with a self-addressed mailing label, to:

Animal Welfare Information Center
National Agricultural Library
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2351
Telephone: (301) 504-6212; TDD/TTY: (301) 504-6856; FAX: (301) 504-6409
Internet: awic@nalusda.gov

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The Animal Welfare Information Center is one of 11 information centers established by NAL to gather information and provide services on issues of critical importance to the agricultural community. In addition to animal welfare, subjects covered by other information centers include: agricultural trade and marketing, alternative farming systems, aquaculture, biotechnology, food and nutrition, plant genome, rural development and health, technology transfer, water quality, and youth development.

NAL is one of three national libraries of the United States, with the Library of Congress and the National Library of Medicine. With a collection of over 2 million volumes, NAL is the largest agricultural library in the world.

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Laboratory Animal Welfare Pubs Available from NAL

Beltsville, MD—Publications listing materials on the use and care of laboratory animals are available from the Animal Welfare Information Center (AWIC) of the National Agricultural Library (NAL). Many of the materials were identified in NAL's AGRICOLA bibliographic database and are available in the NAL collection.

The publications are:

"Animal Models in Biomedical Research: Swine" (SRB 94-01)

"Training Material for Animal Facility Personnel" (QB 94-17)

"Anesthesia and Analgesia for Companion and Laboratory Animals" (QB 94-18)

"Animal Models of Disease" (QB 94-19)

"The publications list hundreds of articles, research reports, books and other materials on these topics," said Jean Larson, AWIC coordinator. "We developed them to assist scientists and others working in laboratories where animals are used in research."

For copies of any or all of the publications, send a request, specifying the publication(s) desired, with a self-addressed mailing label, to:

Animal Welfare Information Center
National Agricultural Library
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2351
Telephone: (301) 504-6212; TDD/TTY: (301) 504-6856; FAX: (301) 504-6409
Internet: awic@nalusda.gov

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94-17
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Cat and Dog Materials Listed in New NAL Bibliographies

Beltsville, MD – Bibliographies of materials on cats and dogs are available from the Animal Welfare Information Center (AWIC) of the National Agricultural Library (NAL). The materials were identified in NAL's AGRICOLA bibliographic database and are available in the NAL collection.

The bibliographies are titled simply "The Dog" (QB 94-24) and "The Cat" (QB 94-25).

From infectious diseases to aggressive behavior to breeding, according to AWIC Coordinator Jean Larson, the bibliographies contain listings of hundreds of articles, research reports, books and other materials on "just about every subject related to dogs and cats."

"We developed the bibliographies for pet owners, breeders, veterinarians, scientists and others who may be doing research on cats and dogs," Larson said.

For copies of either or both of the publications, send a request, specifying the publication(s) desired, with a self-addressed mailing label, to:

Animal Welfare Information Center
National Agricultural Library
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2351

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Internet: awic@nalusda.gov

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September 1994

The Animal Welfare Information Center is one of 11 information centers established by NAL to gather information and provide services on issues of critical importance to the agricultural community. In addition to animal welfare, subjects covered by other information centers include: agricultural trade and marketing, alternative farming systems, aquaculture, biotechnology, food and nutrition, plant genome, rural development and health, technology transfer, water quality, and youth development.

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PRESS RELEASE—FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Animal Welfare Laws Covered in New NAL Publication

Beltsville, MD – A list of literature and other materials on animal welfare legislation and regulations is available from the Animal Welfare Information Center (AWIC) of the National Agricultural Library (NAL). The materials were identified in NAL's AGRICOLA bibliographic database. Many of the items listed are available in the NAL collection.

Entitled "Animal Welfare Legislation and Regulations" (QB 94-23), the publication lists hundreds of articles, research reports, books and other materials and would be helpful to anyone doing research into the subject.

For a copy of the publication, send a request with a self-addressed mailing label, to:

Animal Welfare Information Center
National Agricultural Library
10301 Baltimore Boulevard
Beltsville, Maryland 20705-2351
Telephone: (301) 504-6212
TDD/TTY: (301) 504-6856
FAX: (301) 504-6409
Internet: awic@nalusda.gov

The Animal Welfare Information Center is one of 11 information centers established by NAL to gather information and provide services on issues of critical importance to the agricultural community. In addition to animal welfare, subjects covered by other information centers include: agricultural trade and marketing, alternative farming systems, aquaculture, biotechnology, food and nutrition, plant genome, rural development and health, technology transfer, water quality, and youth development.

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94-19
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Information Alert

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PRESS RELEASE—FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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New "Gopher" Gives Worldwide Access to National Agricultural Library

Beltsville, MD—Immediate electronic access to the resources and services of the National Agricultural Library (NAL) are now available worldwide through the new NAL Gopher server and the Internet.

The NAL Gopher can be reached by anyone having access to a Gopher client and the Internet at:

gopher.nalusda.gov 70

"Gopher" in Internet terminology is a means by which a person can connect to various other computers and retrieve information.

"Currently, the NAL Gopher puts the user in touch with a number of important library services and resources," said NAL Acting Director Pamela André, "from our information centers to NAL bibliographies and publications. In the months ahead even more NAL services will become available."

Specifically, among services now available through the NAL Gopher (main menu) are:

—item 4, "Information Centers." Gives access to information made available by NAL's information centers (currently 8 of 11 centers provide information through the Gopher). Agricultural subjects covered are alternative farming systems, animal welfare, biotechnology, food and nutrition, plant genome, rural information (including rural health information), water quality and youth development.

—item 5, "NAL publications and resources." Included in this section are NAL bibliographies and publications such as the *NAL Electronic Initiative Final Report*, *AGRICOLA Across the Internet—User Needs*, *AGRICOLA—Guide to Subject Indexing*, and *Draft Gopher File Format Standards*.

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– item 6, "Other Agriculture Publications and Data." Provides links to agricultural items authored outside of NAL.

– item 8, "Other Agriculture-related Gopher Systems." Provides links to 31 other Gopher systems. NAL monitors the Internet and routinely adds appropriate Gopher systems to this section.

Also, the Gopher servers of the other two U.S. national libraries, the Library of Congress and the National Library of Medicine, can be accessed from the main menu of the NAL Gopher.

André invited users of the NAL Gopher to let the library know what they think about the new service.

"Improving, expanding and upgrading the NAL Gopher will be an ongoing project for NAL," André said. "We always welcome user comments and suggestions so that we can provide the most needed and valuable services to our customers."

Comments and suggestions on the NAL Gopher can be directed to Bill Feidt, chief of NAL's Library Automation Branch, at "wfeidt@nalusda.gov".

The National Agricultural Library is an agency of the U.S. Department of Agriculture. It is the largest agricultural library in the world, containing over 2.1 million volumes and receiving 26,000 current periodical titles from throughout the world. With the Library of Congress and the National Library of Medicine, NAL is one of three national libraries of the United States.

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94-20
September 1994

Information Alert

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United States Department of Agriculture

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PRESS RELEASE—FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Internet: bnorris@nalusda.gov

Anti-Violence Network Established at National Agricultural Library

Beltsville, MD—An Internet information service on violence and youth-at-risk has been established at the Youth Development Information Center (YDIC) of the National Agricultural Library (NAL).

Called PAVNET (Partnerships Against Violence Network), the service is a project of the National Institute of Justice of the U.S. Department of Justice, the Extension Service of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, and NAL.

According to John Kane, YDIC coordinator and a key PAVNET developer, the service is a "virtual library" of information from throughout the Federal government on violence in the United States and youth at risk.

"PAVNET is a 'one-stop shopping' information resource bringing together violence and youth-at-risk information from a number of government agencies," Kane said. "Through one contact with PAVNET, a person looking for this information is spared the time, and sometimes the frustration, of contacting each Federal agency separately."

Kane said PAVNET is set up primarily to serve state and local community officials who are "struggling to deal with the problems of violence in their communities and how it impacts on young people."

"What PAVNET provides is specific information about anti-violence programs, technical assistance on setting up programs and funding sources available at the Federal, State and local levels," Kane said.

PAVNET is a UNIX communications system programmed with "ALMANAC" and Gopher software. ALMANAC software (developed by Oregon State University under a grant from the Kellogg Foundation) allows full-text documents to be delivered through e-mail (electronic mail) technology. The Gopher software allows access to PAVNET over the Internet.

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NAL's Youth Development Information Center is the "hands on" manager of PAVNET, with YDIC staff selecting and upgrading materials on the system, and providing the physical location for the system. The Extension Service provides technical guidance and support for the online system and information on USDA's "Youth at Risk" initiative. The National Institute of Justice provides financial support and information management leadership and coordination.

Individuals can access PAVNET on the Internet through the CYFERNET system. To reach it online, type

gopher cyfer.esusda.gov

at the prompt and find it listed in the menu that comes up on the screen. Those who do not have gopher software can telnet to a gopher site and pick PAVNET from the Washington, DC, menu under USA.

For additional information contact John Kane at:

Telephone: (301) 504-6400
TDD/TTY: (301) 504-6856
FAX: (301) 504-6409
Internet: jkane@nalusda.gov

Or write to:

John Kane, Coordinator
Youth Development Information Center
National Agricultural Library, USDA
10301 Baltimore Boulevard, Room 304
Beltsville, MD 20705-2351

YDIC is one of eleven information centers established by NAL to provide current information on areas of critical importance to U.S. and world agriculture. Other subjects covered include agricultural trade and marketing, alternative farming systems, animal welfare, aquaculture, biotechnology, food and nutrition, plant genome, rural development and health, technology transfer and water quality.

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